South Dakota Board of Education Department of Education Notice of Public Hearing to Adopt Rules

A public hearing will be held in Conference Room 3 of the Kneip Building at 700 Governors Drive in Pierre on March 19, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. CDT to consider the adoption and amendment of proposed administrative rules numbered:

§§ 24:15:02:08, 24:43:01:01 and 24:05:01 through 24:05:35 inclusive,

The effect of the rules is to allow those teachers who have experience and request certification to be exempt from the pedagogy test that measures "how do I teach" and to not require those that let their certificate that lapses to have to take all the content tests in their endorsement areas,; to explain clearly what constitutes a fine arts credit; and to update the Special Education rules to assure they are aligned clearly with changes to IDEA.

The reason for adopting the proposed amended rules is to be more welcoming to teachers from out of state or those that have left the profession and let their certificates lapse by not punishing them by requiring additional tests to validate their previous experience and knowledge; to clarify which types of classes may be taken for fine arts which was previously narrowly defined; and to assure that the rules for Special Education are updated and reflect current practice.

Persons interested in presenting data, opinions, and arguments for or against the proposed rules may do so by appearing in person at the hearing or by sending them to the South Dakota Department of Education, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, South Dakota 57501. Material sent by mail must reach the Department of Education by May 10, 2007 in order to be considered.

After the hearing, the board will consider all written and oral comments it receives on the proposed rules. The board may modify or amend a proposed rule at that time to include or exclude matters that are described in this notice.

Notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that this hearing is being held in a physically accessible place. Please notify the Department of Education at least 48 hours before the public hearing if you have special needs for which special arrangements must be made. The telephone number for making special arrangements is (605) 773-3426.

Copies of the proposed rules may be obtained without charge from the Internet at http://doe.sd.gov/secretary/adminrules/index.asp or from the Department of Education, South Dakota Board of Education, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291